

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

In response to the above-identified Office Action, Applicant has amended claims 1 and 8.

Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 14, 15 and 17-19 are pending in the application.

This application is under final rejection. Applicant has presented arguments hereinbelow that Applicant believes should render the claims allowable. In the event, however, that the Examiner is not persuaded by Applicant's arguments, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner enter the remarks to clarify issues on appeal.

For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the present claims are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance and passage to issue of the present application are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections

In the rejections, claims 1-4 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Grosser et al (“Grosser”). The Examiner further reiterated the rejection of claims 14-15 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grosser in view of Haughton et al (“Haughton”). Applicant respectfully disagrees with the rejections.

In making a rejection of claims 1-4 and 8-10, Applicant first respectfully points out that claims 4 and 10 have been canceled previously and therefore their inclusion in the rejection is respectfully being considered as a mistake by the Examiner. Secondly, Applicant respectfully points out that the Examiner has listed the rejection of these claims as being under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) but has quoted 35 U.S.C. 102 (e) as the basis for the rejection. In view of the issue date of the cited patent of Grosser (9/12/2000) being only 6 days before the filing date (9/18/2000) of the

- present application, Applicant has considered the basis for the rejection as being under the quoted 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

In the Office Action, the Examiner states:

Applicant argues: (a) Grosser does not teach "a card insulator comprising: a single planar portion" Examiner disagrees. Response to argument (a), Applicant recites "the card insulator comprising: a single planar portion" and maybe comprising something more. Grosser clearly discloses a card insulator (100-figure 1) comprising: a single planar portion (101), which is a planar part of the card insulator positioned substantially perpendicular to a motherboard.

While Applicant believes that the use of the term 'single' clearly indicates that that recited card insulator does not include more than one planar portion, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 8 to more particularly recite that the recited card insulator consists of a single planar portion. In contrast to Applicant's recited card insulator, the cited art of Grosser describes its card insulator in col. 3, lines 9-19, as having "a first planar portion 101" and "a second planar portion 105 ... connected to first planar portion 101 and extends substantially perpendicular to first planar portion." Applicant respectfully submits that by Grosser's own teaching, a card insulator includes perpendicular first and second planar portions, and there is nothing to teach or suggest that the card insulator would consist of a single planar portion. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that Grosser wholly fails to teach, show, or suggest a card insulator consisting of a single planar portion, as now recited by the Applicant.

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(e).

STATEMENT REGARDING COMMON OWNERSHIP

With regard to the rejection of claims 14, 15, and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Grosser in view of Haughton, Applicant respectfully submits that the present

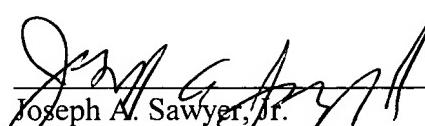
• application and the Grosser patent were, at the time the invention of the present application was made, subject to an assignment obligation to International Business Machines Corporation of Armonk, NY. Applicant further respectfully submits that this statement is sufficient evidence to disqualify the Grosser patent from being used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) against the claims of the present application. Given the reliance on Grosser in the rejection of these claims for all of the recited elements except for the inclusion of a retainer lid as shown by Haughton, Applicant respectfully submits that by the disqualification of the Grosser patent, there is insufficient basis for the rejection of claims 14-15 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the rejection of claims 14-15 and 17-19 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) be withdrawn.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An information processing system comprising:
 - a housing; and
 - a card insulator, the card insulator ~~comprising~~ consisting of:
 - a single planar portion; and
 - a curved handle portion coupled to the single planar portion, the curved handle portion including a hooked element for coupling the card insulator to the housing.

2. (Previously Amended) The information processing system of claim 1 wherein the housing comprises a first and second side wherein the first side is opposite the second side.

3. (Previously Amended) The information processing system of claim 2 wherein the first side of the housing comprises a chassis and the handle portion is coupled to the chassis via the hooked element.

4. Cancelled.

5. (Original) The information processing system of claim 1 further comprising:
 - a retainer guide, the retainer guide coupled the housing, the retainer guide comprising;
 - at least one slot for receiving the card insulator; and

a retainer lid hingedly coupled to the at least one slot for securing the card insulator to the housing.

6. (Original) The information processing system of claim 5 wherein the card insulator comprises an end portion and the at least one slot supports the entire end portion.

7. (Original) The information processing system of claim 6 wherein the retainer lid hingedly rotates from an open position to a closed position.

8. (Currently Amended) A card insulator, the card insulator ~~comprising~~ consisting of:
a single planar portion; and
a curved handle portion coupled to the single planar portion, the curved handle portion including a hooked element for coupling the card insulator to an information processing system.

9. (Previously Amended) The card insulator of claim 8 wherein the information processing system comprises a chassis and the handle portion is coupled to the chassis via the hooked element.

10. Cancelled.

11. (Original) A retainer guide comprising;
at least one slot for receiving a card insulator; and

a retainer lid hingedly coupled to the at least one slot for securing the card insulator to an information processing system.

12. (Original) The retainer guide of claim 11 wherein the card insulator comprises an end portion and the at least one slot supports the entire end portion.

13. (Original) The retainer guide of claim 12 wherein the retainer lid hingedly rotates from an open position to a closed position.

14. (Previously Amended) An information processing system comprising:
a housing having a first and second side wherein the first side is opposite the second side;
a card insulator, the card insulator comprising:
a single planar portion; and
a curved handle portion coupled to the single planar portion, the curved handle portion including a hooked element for coupling the card insulator to the first side of the housing;
and
a retainer guide, the retainer guide coupled to the second side of the housing, the retainer guide comprising:
at least one slot for receiving the card insulator; and
a retainer lid hingedly coupled to the at least one slot for securing the card insulator to the information processing system.

15. (Previously Amended) The information processing system of claim 14 wherein the first side of the housing comprises a chassis and the handle portion is coupled to the chassis via the hooked connecting element.

16. Cancelled.

17. (Previously Amended) The information processing system of claim 15 wherein the card insulator comprises an end portion and the at least one slot supports the entire end portion.

18. (Original) The information processing system of claim 17 wherein the retainer lid hingedly rotates from an open position to a closed position.

19. (Previously Amended) An information processing system comprising:
a housing having a first and second side wherein the first side comprises a chassis and is opposite the second side;
a card insulator, the card insulator comprising:
a single planar portion; and
a curved handle portion coupled to the single planar portion, the curved handle portion including a hooked element for coupling the card insulator to the chassis; and
an end portion coupled to the single planar portion; and
a retainer guide, the retainer guide coupled to the second side of the housing, the retainer guide comprising:
at least one slot for receiving the entire end portion of the card insulator; and

- a retainer lid hingedly coupled to the at least one slot for securing the card insulator to the information processing system wherein the retainer lid hingedly rotates from an open position to a closed position.